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I write to ask you to reject NAB's petition 04-160.

I have been an XM Radio subscriber since December 2001. I travel about 30,000 miles each year in my car through many different states, and I wouldn't go anywhere without my satellite radio service. It provides variety and consistency that I wouldn't find using local stations. Being able to drive from Virginia to Florida without hearing the same song twice, and without having to change the channel, is a joy I would highly recommend to others. Additionally, having local traffic and weather for major cities I drive through is VERY helpful; being a "tourist" I don't know the local channels which would provide that kind of information. With XM Radio, I simply need to pick the channel, listen for two minutes ( literally! ) and I have an update.

I'm sure when cable TV was a "new" technology local stations fought against it as well. However, since consumers PAY for cable TV the system works. You're certainly aware that consumers also PAY for satellite radio. If local stations feel threatened by the service and variety that satellite radio provides, perhaps they should invest that energy and those resources into making their stations better, which would cause people to listen to them instead of paying for a better service like XM or Sirius.

Respectfully yours, and a dedicated XM listener,

Micah J. Wangerin  
Front Royal VA